Restaurant report card: They failed 3

Here comes Jimmy Clausen 14

red eye

Friday
DECEMBER 19, 2014

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A Chicago Tribune publication

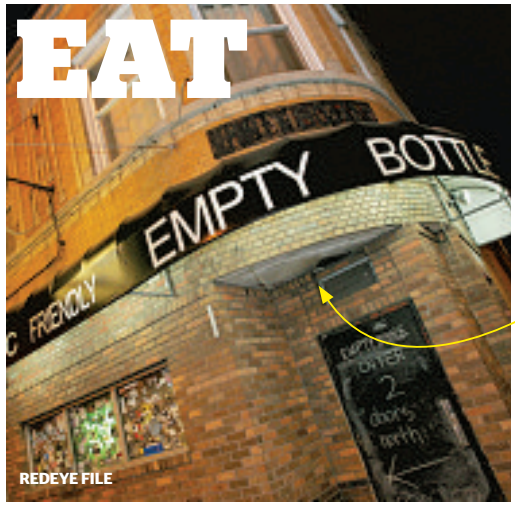
LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Don't let parties, presents and parents eat away at you this time of year 6-7

BY SAMANTHA NELSON FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@TRIBUNE.COM » GET MORE EAT. DRINK. DO. IDEAS AT REDEYECHICAGO.COM

EAT



REDEYE FILE

FREE

MENORAH LIGHTING CELEBRATION
Roosevelt Collection
150 W. Roosevelt Road 312-962-5051
A Hanukkah party includes latkes, jelly doughnuts and hot cider from Bridgeport Coffee plus live music from Chabad Jewish Center of South Loop. 5 p.m. Sunday.

ALL CHILI CONSIDERED
Empty Bottle
1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600
Sample chili from 16 professional chefs and home cooks and vote for your favorite and catch live music from rock band Sewingneedle at the benefit for Graze magazine. Louisa Chu and Monica Eng of WBEZ's "Chewing the Fat" host. Noon-4 p.m. Sunday. $9-$10. Tickets: **ticketweb.com**

DRINK

12 BEERS OF FISTMAS
Dunlays on the Square
3137 W. Logan Blvd. 773-227-2400
Revolution Brewing hosts its biggest tap takeover to date, pouring pints ($6.50-$12 each) of a dozen brews including Deth's Tar imperial stout, Fistmas holiday ale and Coup d'Etat saison. 7 p.m. Friday. No cover.

DO

HOLIDAZED
Subterra *350 N. Ogden Ave. 847-224-3737*
Browse works from 40 artists at arts nonprofit Echoes of Chicago's third annual party, which also features performances from local musicians, button-making and a holiday-themed photo booth. 6 p.m. Saturday. $10 Suggested donation.

PURITY BALL
Nikki *1543 N. Kingsbury St. 312-266-4800*
DJ Alain Jackinsky headlines Neverland's third annual LGBT white party, which also features performances from Queen Bee Ho and Shea Coulee. Angel winged dancers, mythical creatures created by special effects makeup artists and a live white horse add to the themed spectacle. 10 p.m.-3:30 a.m. Friday. $30. Tickets: **showclix.com**

REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY Tickets to see "First Date" at the Royal George Cabaret go on sale Friday: **firstdatechi.com**

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View our photo gallery of Chicago restaurants that were shuttered in 2014 at **redeyechicago.com/closed**

KITCHEN NIGHTMARES

ANALYSIS SHOWS RESTAURANTS THAT REPEATEDLY FAILED HEALTH INSPECTIONS IN 2014

REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

By Rachel Cromidas | REDEYE

At least six Chicago restaurants have failed their city health inspection four times each in 2014, according to a recent analysis of Chicago Department of Public Health data.

That's the highest number of times an individual restaurant failed an inspection this year, the analysis shows.

The eateries include Trinity Bar in Lincoln Park, Hana Restaurant in Rogers Park and Nuevo Leon in Pilsen. Other familiar names show up farther down the list of restaurants notching failed inspections on several occasions, including Lao Sze Chuan's Chinatown location with three fails, Clarke's Diner in Lincoln Park with three failing grades and Little Goat Diner on the Near West Side with two failing grades.

A failing grade does not automatically mean the city will shutter a restaurant. Restaurants typically have anywhere from 48 hours to 7 days to fix whatever problems led to the violations, according to Gerrin Butler, the city's director of food inspection, and most are found to be back in compliance with the city's laws after receiving one failing grade.

The analysis, created by Brandon Harris, a data scientist and University of Chicago graduate student, uses information culled from the city's data portal to rank the restaurants based on which have had the most failed health inspections this year, and which have had the most severe ratings from the city on their failed inspections.

He wrote a computer program to analyze the city's data as part of a graduate school assignment.

In Chicago a full-service restaurant is subject to annual inspection, Butler said. Full-service eateries are defined as those that offer table service, prepare food to-order—as opposed to heating up precooked, frozen food—and are designed for meals to be consumed primarily at the restaurant, Butler said.

Inspectors will return to the restaurant multiple times in a year if it receives a failing grade on its annual inspection. A restaurant will continue to be inspected as long as it continues to receive a failing grade, she said, unless its problems are so significant that it must close.

SIX

The number of Chicago restaurants that earned four failing grades in 2014, according to an analysis of Chicago Department of Public Health data published.

- **Trinity Bar** at 2751 N. Halsted St.
- **Taj Mahal** at 1512 W. Taylor St.
- **Hana Restaurant** at 6803 N. Sheridan Road
- **Fischman's Wagyu Wagon** at 324 N. Leavitt St.
- **Nuevo Leon Restaurant** at 1515 W. 18th St.
- **Lawndale Food Market** at 3705-3713 W. 16th St.

Nuevo Leon, a popular Mexican restaurant in Pilsen, was shuttered temporarily in August after inspectors cited it for improper food storage and live roaches, among other citations.

The restaurant's managers said inspections have grown more strict in recent years and penalized the restaurant for not refrigerating food "properly" without taking into account their made-to-order cooking methods.

"I am still very upset about the closing, it was very unfair," Daniel Gutierrez Jr., the manager, said. "Many people don't care that you've been in business for 52 years."

Gutierrez, whose family owns Nuevo Leon, said the restaurant is complying with the inspectors' directives, which included using new food prep and storage systems and setting up a partition wall in the kitchen.

"We had to make some changes, which we've done, and there's no other way but forward," he said. "When we're told to do things one way, we're going to make those changes in order for us to provide a healthy atmosphere and healthy food for anybody."

Managers for Lao Sze Chuan and Trinity Bar, which were temporarily closed by the city earlier this year, did not respond to multiple phone calls requesting comment this week. Little Goat Diner, a popular offshoot of the West Loop's Girl and the Goat restaurant, originally was listed as having three failed inspections this year, but representatives for the restaurant are disputing this number with the city and declined to comment.

A failed health inspection doesn't necessarily mean it's a bad idea to eat at a certain restaurant, since restaurants can receive a fail just for being closed when the inspector arrives to do a surprise inspection, according to Butler. The data entered into the city's data portal, which Harris pulled for his analysis, could also have some entry errors, Butler said. But multiple fails can give consumers insight into how a restaurant is operated, she said.

"The more inspections they have, the bigger a picture you have about how that restaurant operates," Butler said. "If they have more fails, that tells you something. More passes, that tells you something else."

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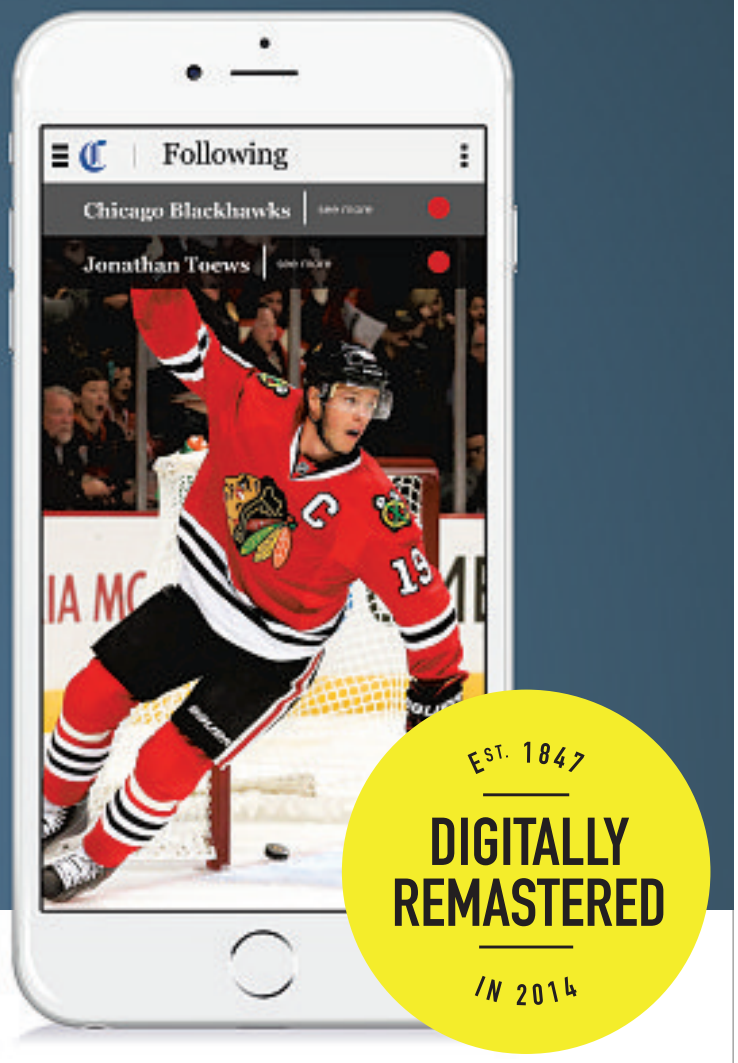

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Chicago Tribune

A protester holds her hands up in front of a police car in Ferguson, Mo. GETTYIMAGES

Real change begins with empathy, not protests

Scott Bolohan
» redeye@tribune.com
» @scottbolohan

The lack of indictments in the deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner has sparked huge protests across the country. And those demonstrations need to stop.

I get that people aren't happy; I'm not either. I believe the protesters have good intentions at heart. But, at best, their actions might get one of the decisions revisited, which won't bring Brown or Garner back.

I think many protesters take to the streets to feel good about themselves while also exerting the least possible effort, only to go home and pat themselves on their not-racist backs and sleep in their not-racist beds and dream not-racist dreams. At least, until another incident makes the news, when they'll be back on the street repeating the process.

In the end, nothing is solved.

Fleeting outrage has defined the past five years, and we are no closer to solutions. The Occupy movement did nothing. Protesting Trayvon Martin's death accomplished nothing. The current cycle of demonstrations also are a dead end. You can't fight concepts like inequality and racism by camping out or playing dead. Racism isn't going to see your point and just stop.

Making a difference will take ongoing effort, which isn't as immediately gratifying as setting a cop car on fire. The anger and hate exhibited by some protesters are the very things that fuel racism. Racism is weakened when people can show empathy toward one another. Yelling and shouting don't show that; caring and listening do.

If protesters want to really affect change, they should volunteer with people different from themselves, using the energy and desire for equality toward something good. Want to get really angry about something? Go into a low-income classroom and work with kids. Then connect the dots to their futures.

Whenever I'm home in Michigan, I teach with my mom in Harper Woods, a poor suburb of Detroit. I probably spend 20 days a year in that school, and even in that little time I feel like I've made a difference.

This year, the day before Thanksgiving break, one of the kids asked my mom (who is white) if she and the other teacher in the room (who is black) were sisters. They looked at each other, laughed and said yes. As I was leaving the school, one of the kids gave me a drawing they made of me. Brown crayon had been used to color in my face.

Something happens between that age and adulthood to cause racial misunderstanding. A lot of it has to do with education, money and opportunities—all of which I had, but I know the Harper Woods kids won't get. This is something to be angry about, and something that won't be fixed by standing in the middle of a street.

Would Darren Wilson or George Zimmerman or Justin Damico have acted differently if they were more empathetic toward other races? No one knows. But I promise they wouldn't have been worse off.

If there was ever a time to act and make meaningful change, it's now. And it starts with everyone—yes, everyone—pairing empathy with effort.

SCOTT BOLOHAN IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

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LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE

LURCHING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS

By Rachel Cromidas | REDEYE

Whether hearing "Jingle Bells" evokes memories of six-hour car rides, relatives wanting to know why you're not married yet or draining your bank account on presents—RedEye wants you to make it through the holiday season.

For those a year or even a decade out of college, going home for the holidays doesn't have to mean time-traveling back to your high school days, even if the relatives still see you as a kid.

So RedEye rounded up advice on how to stay calm, save money and navigate your workplace during what's supposed to be the happiest time of the year. (Harumph.)

Be a pro at the office holiday festivities

The office holiday party is (hopefully) boozier and more light-hearted than the annual budget meeting, but it's not a time to totally let loose.

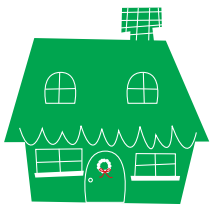
"Even though it's a celebration, you are still in that work environment," said Elaine Swann, a West Coast-based etiquette expert. "Always keep in the back of your mind, 'What do I want my reputation to look like on Monday morning?' "

She advises office party revelers to stick to a two-drink maximum and leave spouses or friends at home unless they are given the OK to bring a guest. But even though the party setting is professional, it's not the time to air grievances or make special requests to managers.

"This is not the time to try to corner your boss or supervisor for a raise or try to get them to do something you weren't able to get them to do during the typical nine-to-five hours," Swann said.

And don't share party photos or information about your colleagues on social media without first asking for permission, she said—because nobody likes to be caught off guard by an unflattering post.

There's also the matter of the office gift exchange. If you do get your co-workers gifts, a good rule of thumb is to keep it non-denominational, impersonal (so no clothes or perfumes) and less than $15. Swann is a fan of gift certificates or movie passes.



Go home without going back in time

If you go home for the holidays, just because you're sleeping in your childhood bedroom doesn't mean you should act like a kid. (Mom and Dad aren't on laundry duty, got it?)

"When you go back home, you tend to revert back into your childhood roles," said Jeffrey Greeson, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania.

Greeson recommends that before people arrive home, they take time to imagine three typical ways they behave during this time of

year that they're not proud of, and then come up with three alternative behaviors. If you get into frequent disagreements with a family member, for example, he said it's possible not to get sucked into a conflict by practicing mindfulness.

"It's hard to change other people, so it's on us to be accountable of our own automatic reactions, and then endeavoring to try our best not to automatically react," Greeson said.

Susan Newman, a social psychologist who writes about family dynamics, recommends altering the expectations you place on yourself and your family while you're home.

"If you have had a nagging, annoying, on-your-back mother, she's not going to change, so you don't expect her to be warm, loving and uplifting this year because that hasn't happened before," she said. "Lowering your expectations and adjusting your attitude helps."

Pick out the perfect gifts on a budget

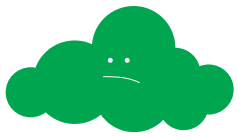
The key to thoughtful gift giving, holiday shopping experts say, often comes down to how much the gift fits the recipient's personality and needs, not how much money it cost. That should come as a relief for Millennials, who are expected to spend less during the holidays than other adults because of financial struggles like student loan debt and slow salary growth.

Gregg Andrews, a Chicago-based fashion director at Nordstrom, said there are a few ways to make someone feel like a gift was selected just for him or her, such as selecting an item like jewelry or clothing monogrammed with the recipient's initials or sporting the logo of their alma mater or favorite sports team. That way, even something small, like a coffee mug, feel significant.

"I think a great gift is something you would not necessarily splurge on yourself," Andrews said, like a cashmere scarf, a set of beer mugs or a fitness monitor—if the recipient is a fitness buff, or setting workout goals for the new year.

Because many 20-somethings can't splurge on a big-ticket item, like a home entertainment system or a fancy winter coat, Andrews recommends teaming up with friends or family members to each buy one piece in a set of related items, such as a matching set of winter gloves, a hat and socks, or a set of matching dishware for someone who has recently moved.

"That whole idea of adding on is terrific," he said. "You give a beanie, somebody else gives a scarf and you put some time and effort into it so that it's not just a bunch of random things."



Beat back seasonal depression

You don't have to go home just because it's the holidays—in fact, you don't have to do anything.

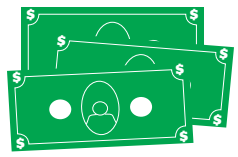
Stress in December is often caused by the desire to please everyone around you, and Newman, the social psychologist, recommends breaking out of your routines to stymie depression, and learning how to say "no" to projects and obligations.

"You don't have to do the holidays the same way every single year," she said. "I think people forget that they're adults and that they can say no to something, they can change what they do or limit the amount of time they spend with family, particularly annoying family who remind you to comb your hair and ask you why you're still not married."

That means the less you agree to do, whether it's planning a party, baking an elaborate potluck dish or traveling out of your way to visit friends, the more free you're likely to feel to spend time on the people and activities that are most important.

For people struggling to keep their moods up during the holidays, Greeson of the University of Pennsylvania suggests prioritizing exercise, known for its psychological benefits, alone time and one-on-one time with important friends and relatives.

"A lot of the holiday time is spent in group settings, multiple families getting together, work functions with the whole office, and it can be overwhelming," he said.



Don't blow your savings account

Airfare, party libations, charity donations and presents can do a number on your wallet.

John Schmoll, founder of Frugal Rules, a personal finance website, said it's important to come up with a budget you can afford for each of those areas you expect to spend money on in advance, and then stick to it.

"It seems like every other person comes out of the woodwork during the holidays, their kid is selling this or wants a donation for that, and it's all great, but it adds up over time," Schmoll said. "Realize it's OK to say no."

If you know you want to contribute to a charity, Schmoll said, consider donating time as a volunteer rather than money, or ask a food pantry what specific items they need most to make sure your donation has an impact.

And when buying gifts for family members, Schmoll said he uses apps like RedLaser and Camel Camel Camel and the website **freeshipping.org** to compare prices and find discounts and free-shipping deals.

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An employee scoops popcorn at Garrett's shop on Michigan Avenue. CHRIS WALKER/TRIBUNE FILE

Garrett settles suit over 'Chicago Mix' naming

Chicago Tribune

Patrons might still walk into a Garrett Popcorn shop and ask for "Chicago Mix," but the company now is legally required to call its famous caramel and cheese flavored popcorn combo by another name.

The owner of Garrett Popcorn Shops settled a suit brought by Candyland over the rights to the name "Chicago Mix," according to court documents filed this month.

Candyland holds the trademark to the Chicago Mix mark for flavored popped popcorn.

Under the terms of the settlement with Garrett Popcorn Shops, also known as CaramelCrisp LLC, the chain will no longer use Chicago Mix when it refers to popcorn in the U.S.

The company will call its product the Garrett Mix, which combines sweet CaramelCrisp and savory CheeseCorn.

HOT DATE

MONDAY

The Damen Blue Line stop in Wicker Park is scheduled to reopen at 4 a.m. Monday after a two-month renovation. Blue Line trains have been bypassing the station since the agency began the $13.6 million project, which included adding turnstiles, replacing floors, repairing platform stairs and improving station lights. The next phase of the $492 million upgrade to Blue Line track and stations on the North Side will focus on improving the Addison, Irving Park, Montrose and Harlem and Cumberland stops starting next year. REDEYE

Suspect caught literally red-handed after robbery

Reginald Deberry, of the 6300 block of South Sacramento Avenue, was charged Thursday with one count of bank robbery after being accused of robbing a South Loop bank Wednesday. Deberry, who had what appeared to be red paint on his hands when police apprehended him six minutes after the holdup of the Fifth Third Bank branch at 601 S. Clark St., is suspected in another heist earlier this month, authorities said. TRIBUNE

THE QUOTE

"We've had this tradition a long time, and it's something that the whole family looks forward to. We will be going away. ... You guys will then attack me for going away with my family when I come back. And then we'll play that process too."

—**Mayor Emanuel**, at a news conference this week to announce plans for a new downtown high-rise, talking about his annual holiday family vacation—this year's to Chile—that he acknowledged opens him up to criticism just two months before he seeks re-election. TRIBUNE

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The stretch of Broadway on the People for Bikes list features a protected bike lane with a "buffer" of paint lines, similar to the one pictured above, on Jackson Boulevard. CHUCK BERMAN/TRIBUNE

Broadway protected bike lanes 'Top 10' in U.S.

By Rachel Cromidas | REDEYE

The protected bike lane installed this year on a section of Broadway in Uptown was named one of the year's 10 best new bike lanes in the U.S. by advocacy group People for Bikes.

The celebrated 1.2 miles of bike lanes on Broadway includes a stretch from Foster Avenue to Wilson Avenue that is protected with a "buffer" of paint lines separating the bike and car lanes, and a section from Wilson Avenue to Montrose Avenue that is also protected by white posts called bollards, according to the Chicago Department of Transportation data.

City crews installed 30.75 miles of buffer-protected bike lanes and 3.25 miles of barrier-protected ones around the city this year, according to department data. Both styles are considered protected bike lanes by the city.

People for Bikes, is an advocacy organization sponsored by bicycle suppliers, manufacturers and retailers. People for Bikes organizers noted the Broadway lanes run in both directions on opposite sides of the street in a busy commercial area, making riding easier for cyclists but having more of an affect on how cars use the road than a two-way lane on one side of the street would have.

The majority of Chicago's bike lanes are unprotected, meaning they run along the curb on one side of the street and are marked by a single, white line, a bike symbol and/or some white line arrows painted on the ground. The lanes also point cyclists to ride in the same direction as vehicle traffic.

Ald. James Cappleman, (46th) whose ward includes the Broadway bike lanes, said the next ward project likely will be a neighborhood greenway running on Leland Avenue between Clark Street and Lake Shore Drive. Neighborhood greenways consist of side streets where a green-painted bike lane signals bikes have the right-of-way.

"From Western Avenue all the way to the lake, we want to make it easier for people to ride their bikes," he said.

RCROMIDAS@TRIBUNE.COM | @RACHELCROMIDAS

TOP 10 NEW BIKE LANES

Here are the other nine bike lanes on the list. Chicago's Broadway was No. 10.

- Polk Street in San Francisco
- 2nd Avenue in Seattle
- Broadway in Seattle
- Riverside Drive in Memphis, Tenn.
- Rosemead Boulevard in Temple City, Calif.
- Furness Drive in Austin, Texas
- SW Multnomah Boulevard in Portland, Ore.
- Penn Avenue in Pittsburgh
- King Street in Honolulu

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SATURDAY 35 27 Some sun

SUNDAY 38 28 Gray again

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8 children killed in Australia stabbing

Eight children have been killed and a woman injured, police said Friday, during what several media outlets reported was a mass stabbing in Australia's tropical northern city of Cairns.

Australia is already in a state of heightened alert after police stormed a Sydney cafe early Tuesday morning to end a 16-hour hostage standoff in which three people were killed, including the hostage-taker.

Queensland state police said in a statement they were called to a house in the Cairns suburb of Manoora just before midday after reports of a woman with serious injuries on the premises.

They found the bodies of the children, aged between 18 months and 15, when they were examining the location.

The woman is receiving medical treatment for her injuries, police said, and is assisting them with their investigation.

While unrelated to the mass stabbing in Cairns, the Sydney siege has triggered an outpouring of grief, with shocked Australians laying thousands of bouquets at a makeshift shrine in a central city mall near the siege cafe.

A Pakistani mourner reads Thursday from the Quran as others gather to pray for the 148 children and teachers killed in an attack earlier this week by Taliban militants at an army-run school in Peshawar. The Pakistani military said Thursday its chief of army staff had signed death warrants for six "hard core terrorists" following the attack. GETTY IMAGES

Uber driver charged with kidnapping, rape

A driver for ride-sharing company Uber in Boston was charged with the kidnapping and rape of a woman who used the service earlier this month. Alejandro Done, who pleaded not guilty, had passed a background check, an Uber spokeswoman said.

Girls in Slenderman case ruled competent for trial

Two Wisconsin girls accused of luring a classmate into the woods and repeatedly stabbing her to please a fictional Internet character named Slenderman are competent to stand trial, a judge ruled Thursday. Anissa Weier and Morgan Geyser, both 12 at the time, were charged as adults with first-degree attempted homicide in the May attack on their classmate.

THE DIGIT

172 Number of women and children suspected Boko Haram gunmen kidnapped Sunday during a raid on the northeast Nigerian village of Gumsuri, residents said Thursday. The gunmen killed 35 other people, residents said. Boko Haram wants an Islamic state in Nigeria.

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2014 Regular Season • Week 16

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THE DIGIT

$48 According to **TiqIQ.com**, tickets for Sunday's Bears-Lions game were selling for as little as $48 apiece as of Friday afternoon. The average price for their seven previous home games was $275.

'I DIDN'T SEE IT COMING'

Bears drama takes turn with QB change

Chicago Tribune

Bears coach Marc Trestman's decision to bench starting quarterback Jay Cutler in favor of inexperienced backup Jimmy Clausen for Sunday's game is the latest chapter in the ongoing drama at Halas Hall.

After Thursday's practice, Trestman expressed his reasoning and Cutler shared his reaction in a packed media room at team headquarters. Here are some of the highlights.

Jay Cutler at Thursday's press conference STACEY WESCOTT/TRIBUNE

"I really like it here. I love the guys in the locker room that I get to play with. Clearly, it's different circumstances now. But going forward, this is where I'd like to be."

—Cutler on if he a fresh start somewhere else might be necessary

"That's a fair question. I don't know if I can answer that. I think that's probably something for Phil [Emery, general manager] or the McCaskeys or Tress [coach Marc Trestman]. In my role right now, I just have to support Jimmy, try to help him as much as possible, and whatever happens after that last game."

—Cutler on if this indicates the franchise is not as committed to him as it was before

Cutler on whether he saw the demotion coming and his reaction to it:
"Shocked ... and then disappointed. I didn't see it coming. But I think any time you lose a lot of games and you don't play as well as you hoped, there's a chance it could happen."

Cutler on if he could play for Trestman next season:
"Yes. Yes. I think I could. Yeah, I definitely think I could. We'd have to figure some things out through the offseason, which I think would be easy enough to identify and work on things, but that's not out of the question in my book anyway."

Marc Trestman EPA

Trestman on whether he needed to seek permission on his decision from his superiors:
"This was a coaching decision. And the people that I work with in the building all said, 'This is a coaching decision, make the coaching decision that you think is appropriate for this time.' "

"As I told our team today, this doesn't void us of our offensive struggles that we have or the team struggles that we have by making this change. And I think our guys are well aware of that. But for the present moment, I think this is in the best interest of our football team. ... I can't speak for Jay but I know him well enough to know, this is obviously not a good time for him. [But] I've also seen careers revived from moments like this—that players gain strength, they gain perspective, they come out stronger. And I really expect Jay will do that." **—Trestman on the decision to bench Cutler and insert Clausen as starting quarterback**

THE STARTING LINE » Bulls at Memphis, 7 p.m. My50 » Wolves sign former Blackhawks forward Ben Eager » Woman files lawsuit after falling down Fenway Park elevator shaft

Jay Cutler
GETTY IMAGES

Your turn, Jimmy

Chicago Tribune

Jimmy Clausen will start at quarterback for the Bears on Sunday in place of the embattled Jay Cutler. At least Clausen won't have to deal with much pressure.

"No, [it's not awkward]," Clausen said. "We have a great relationship. Since Day 1 when I came in, Jay's been great with me, helping me, and that's what he's doing right now."

Here are eight things to know about the Bears' No. 8:

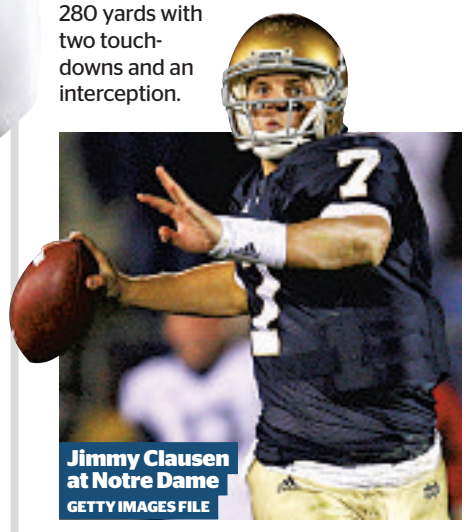
» Clausen has seen playing time this season in blowout losses to New England and Green Bay (twice). He has completed 3 of 9 passes for 42 yards.

» Clausen had a 1-9 record as a rookie starter for Carolina in 2010, completing 52.5 percent of his passes for 1,558 yards with three touchdowns and nine picks.

» Clausen's last regular-season touchdown pass was a 2-yarder to tight end Jeff King in the final minute of a 31-10 loss to Atlanta in the 2010 finale.

» The Panthers went 2-14 during Clausen's rookie season, landing the No. 1 pick in the 2011 draft that they used on quarterback Cam Newton.

» During the preseason with the Bears this August, Clausen was 24-of-37 for 280 yards with two touchdowns and an interception.



Jimmy Clausen at Notre Dame
GETTY IMAGES FILE

» Clausen made 34 starts in three seasons at Notre Dame, throwing for 8,148 yards. That ranks second in school history behind Brady Quinn (11,762).

» Clausen also ranks second at Notre Dame in career completions (695) and third in touchdown passes (60).

» As a high school All-American in California, Clausen was USA Today's offensive player of the year in 2006. He had a 42-0 record as a high school starter.

» Game-worn Michael Jordan shoes from North Carolina sell for $33K

OH GOD

You know what, putting Jesus Christ under center for the Bears seems like a grand idea all of the sudden.

Maggie Schultz
RedEye contest winner

Jimmy Greenfield
@jcgreenx
ChicagoNow community manager

Sara Amato
@saamato
RedEye sensitive designer/loud person

John Scholl
@johnmanbque
ManBQue co-founder

Bag Boy
redeyesports@tribune.com
Brown-bagged and furious

1	**Jay Cutler is out. Jimmy Clausen is in. Discuss.**	I guess Trestman's going by alphabetical order now? Is Culpepper up next?	Choose a starting QB based on initials can only mean one thing: Jesus Christ in 2015!	LOL wut? Really?	They have the same initials. You know who else has those initials? Hint: His birthday is on the 25th.	One JC in for another JC. The JC I have been praying to has been listening!
2	**Is anything the Bears do even shocking anymore?**	Honestly they could tell me Keanu Reeves is playing QB and I'd go, "Seems legit."	I wouldn't dare suggest they've bottomed out yet.	The Bears shock me as much as the N.Y. Jets do in that they don't at all. Ever. Never ever.	Going back to leather helmets would be shocking AND exciting. Concussions for everyone!	No. It's all fun to watch at this point.
3	**Who has the best body language in Chicago sports?**	Jimmy Butler! (Blatant shoutout to my alma mater Marquette.)	Me when I'm gloating about being 100 percent right about Cutler.	Patrick Sharp. Oh. You said body language, not body ... awkward.	All those Bears fans who wore brown paper bags over their heads on Monday night. #BearsBag	I like that thing Robin Ventura does. I call it "the corpse."
4	**When the Blackhawks play on Saturday AND Sunday like they will this weekend ...**	... every time a cash register in the West Loop rings, a Blackhawk gets his (angel) wings.	... then it's guaranteed to be a good weekend.	... no one should complain because hockey is the (bleep).	... we can all stop pretending we like college football and the Bears.	... it's a great excuse to say, "I'm doing some last-minute shopping," and then head to the bar and watch!
5	**Random question: What's your favorite holiday movie?**	"Brian's Song" because who doesn't like overdramatic acting and crying at Christmas?	Random answer: a small vise-like object.	"Home Alone." Duh. "You guys give up yet? Or are you thirsty for more?"	The 1985 flick called "Santa Claus: The Movie." Main reason is because I worked with the now-adult child actor from it.	"Field of Dreams." There's a Christmas scene in there.

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studs&duds / FROM NEWS SERVICES

Jay Cutler (left) is pressured by Kasim Edebali during Monday's game. GETTY IMAGES

Why doesn't Cutler have to apologize?

SACKED AGAIN

Bag Boy

» redeyesports@tribune.com

First, a quick note of thanks, again, to Sports Illustrated.

If you believe in the SI jinx, and Lord knows you should, they just screwed us.

They put Jon Lester on the cover before he pitched even one inning for the Cubs.

I want to say the last time a Cubs pitcher was on the cover like that was Kerry Wood in 2004. I believe it said, "The Cubs will win the World Series in 2004."

So aside from them not making the World Series and the failed careers of Kerry Wood and Mark Prior, that whole thing worked out just fine.

The Cubs are now at 12-1 odds to win it all. Thanks, degenerates, for updating the odds.

Of course, not to be outdone, the White Sox have blown us away with Melky Cabrera. He can hit for average, he can hit for power. He's done PEDs, but who hasn't at this point?

We of course say goodbye to Dayan Viciedo. At least I hope so.

Now that the U.S. is normalizing relations with Cuba, I'm expecting a steady stream of players to make their way here. And that's the extent of my international news analysis.

What's really, really nice, though, is having Chicago on the national scene. For better, and for sure worse.

Thanks again, Santa, for this early gift. Jay Cutler to the bench!

Oh, those Bears. Yes, hello, world. Hello, ESPN. Welcome to our freak show.

Aaron Kromer, tearfully apologizing (for telling the truth? Is this Russia?).

We've got Cutler being ridiculed by Jon Gruden and Stephen A. Smith.

I picture the Bears as the Titanic. And it's the McCaskeys playing "Nearer, My God, To Thee" on the deck.

Gentlemen, they say, it's been a privilege playing with you.

Look at these idiotic headlines. "Aaron Rodgers baffled by Kromer's comments."

"Phil Emery upset, disappointed by Kromer's comments."

OK, one question. Why doesn't Cutler have to apologize?

As for Rodgers, he's baffled because he's a good QB and doesn't play stupid football like Cutler. Of course he's baffled.

Aaron Kromer, you can coach my team any day. Thank you.

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THE FINISH LINE » Bulls 103, New York 97 » NCAA hoops: DePaul at Oregon State, late

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Sizing up Roxie's by the Slice in Wicker Park

SLICE & DICE

Roxie's by the Slice
1732 N. Milwaukee Ave.
773-987-6543

By Michael Nagrant | FOR REDEYE

Brendan Sodikoff is the man with the golden touch. The owner of Hogsalt Hospitality fed Chicago's modern doughnut revolution with Doughnut Vault. He reinvented the Chicago steakhouse at Bavette's. Given his track record, the fantasies of what magic he might conjure when he finally set his sights on pizza were almost unfathomable. With the launch of Roxie's by the Slice in Wicker Park last month, I no longer had to imagine.

LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE

The scene

The interior of Roxie's looks like a Jersey pizza parlor, a speakeasy, a bodega and a metalworking warehouse all got swept up into a big tornado, with the best parts of each landing carefully curated on a triangle-shaped patch of asphalt in Wicker Park. The wall-mounted shelves holding supplies such as canned tomatoes, trays of deli paper and bags of flour are charming, until my eyes landed on a multi-pack of Pam cooking spray. Unlike cans of imported Italian tomatoes, Pam is never sexy and a little too real to ever really be cool. On the other hand, an old-school Frigidaire holding drinks including blood orange soda and Mexican Coke ($3 for each) is as cool as it gets.

The crust

The dough, which is hand-turned and slow-fermented over 24 hours, is as curated as the atmosphere. The goal here is a crisp bottom and a chewy, puffy edge, which is achieved when the dough is baked off in the restaurant's stone hearth-bottomed deck ovens. Cheese pies are baked once and then again after toppings are added to order. The second bake creates a superb and universal crispness; there is none of that Sbarro-like slice saggery going on here. While the size of the slices are inspired by the foldable ones you might find in Brooklyn or the Bronx, Sodikoff's goal was to create a pizza crust characteristic of "the great pizza shops worldwide," he said. The very best pizza crusts are full of airy bubbles, have a satisfying chew and are reminiscent of artisan-baked bread; the crust at Roxie's is halfway there. It's solid and the edge has a lot of those characteristics, but that crisp underbelly is almost too crisp and similar to a well-baked franchise pie.

The sauce

Roxie's red sauce features milled tomatoes, garlic, basil, chili, salt and a few other seasonings. It adds nice acidity to the slice, but it also gets a little lost amid the dough, cheese and toppings. As for the white sauce (made with parmesan, garlic, chili, cream and ricotta), except for some garlicness, I would have sworn it wasn't there at all.

The toppings

These slices are huge. One will probably fill you up; two will for sure if you're especially hungry. Slices start at $4.50 for cheese, while extra toppings are $1 extra apiece. The toppings list is short: pepperoni, prosciutto, sweet peppers, arugula, mushrooms, anchovies, sopressata and olives. Your best bet is to add no more than one or two toppings, as each of the individual ingredients are strong on their own. The button mushrooms are rendered down into inky black half moons that are seasoned with fruity olive oil and woodsy thyme. The salty, garlicky pink curls of soppressata are sliced to order on a vintage-looking (it's new) hand-cranked manual slicer. The very best ingredient is a spicy tangy sweet cherry pepper that pairs well with the soppressata and lightens the otherwise rich pizza.

The bottom line

The pizza is exactly what Sodikoff told me he was going for: "I love that we're not shooting for culinary individuality or some gastronomic statement," he said. "This spot is about a good slice of pizza made and served by good people." That said, it's a very good slice served in a great room to wind down a night of debauchery. If I was drinking in Wicker Park or Bucktown and didn't want a Big Star taco or Flash Taco burrito at the end of the night, I'd definitely reach for a slice of Roxie's (open 6 p.m.-2 a.m. Tuesday-Saturday). On the other hand, I don't find myself craving Roxie's slices in the way that I do the caramelized cheese-crusted Pequod's pizzas or artisan-style crusts at Spacca Napoli. If I'm planning ahead for my pizza, I'm going to those spots because those pies stir my soul in a way that Roxie's just doesn't. REPORTERS VISIT RESTAURANTS UNANNOUNCED AND MEALS ARE PAID FOR BY REDEYE. REDEYE@TRIBUNE.COM | @REDEYEEATDRINK

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This once-obscure French elderflower liqueur has been riding high on the mixology wave for years now. Running $40-$50 retail, a full-size bottle is pretty pricey, but one advantage to its popularity is that it's now being packaged in two smaller sizes. The medium-sized 200-milliliter bottle is perfect for bringing to a holiday party along with a bottle of sparkling wine (combine with a twist of lemon and you have a quickie champagne cocktail), while the teeny 50-milliliter bottle is my new favorite stocking stuffer to give and to get. Though you won't find the latter in Chicago liquor stores thanks to current laws that prohibit the sale of mini-bottles of booze, they're easily ordered online through Quality Liquor Store's site.

LISA ARNETT

THE JUNCTION CHICAGO
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(1/4 Mile East of Kirk Rd.)
Geneva, IL 60185
630-232-2882

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Stuck in the middle

FAST PAISED
Matt Pais
» mpais@tribune.com
» @mattpais

Annie
PG

In the 1982 big-screen version of the 1977 Broadway musical "Annie," the titular orphaned redhead was an annoying little sprite. I get that she's meant to be a beacon of Depression-era optimism, but at what point does a likable child become an artificially peppy, unconvincing robot? Annie still needs to demonstrate human behavior, not act like Small Wonder set to mega-cheerful.

So it seems promising when the new, present-day "Annie" opens with a chirpy redhead giving a class presentation emphatically rejected by her classmates as dull. Then another girl named Annie (Quvenzhane Wallis, Oscar nominee for "Beasts of the Southern Wild") delivers a lively, rhythmic piece on FDR's New Deal that's more performance than presentation. Yes, this Annie is African-American, but thankfully director/co-writer Will Gluck ("Friends with Benefits," "Easy A") doesn't equate that change with racial stereotypes or an offensive need to hip-hopify the story. (Jay Z helped produce, but his "Hard Knock Life [Ghetto Anthem]" isn't included.) Though I wish the film included a cultural backlash against a dopey white guy (Bobby Cannavale) when he creates for Annie the Twitter handle @annie4realz.

That account emerges after Annie becomes a minor celebrity while hanging out with Will Stacks (Jamie Foxx), a billionaire running for NYC mayor. Stacks realizes face time with a cute foster child might soothe voters who, for some reason, think a guy who spits mashed potatoes in a homeless man's face is unrelatable. Ten-year-old Annie certainly doesn't mind leaving Miss Hannigan (Cameron Diaz), Annie's abrasive foster mom, whose greatest unhappiness outside of not having a man is that she was kicked out of C+C Music Factory before they took off. Unfortunately, "Annie" doesn't know what to do with its namesake, and blame for that falls on both Gluck and Wallis. Now old enough to do things on purpose (rather than a 6-year-old acting on instinct alone), Wallis and her director repeatedly fail to clarify Annie's feelings.

'Annie'

In fact, Gluck's overall direction is awkward, from misguided, poorly-timed jokes to undermining songs with big pop production. The filmmaker is most comfortable concocting another fake movie as Will and Annie attend the premiere of a "Twilight" parody featuring actors played by Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis. In this moment, "Annie" achieves both family togetherness and modern bite. In most other places, it's lukewarm mush.

MOTION PICTURE DIRECTORY

♿ Handicapped Access ♦ Digital Sound ✔ Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes Hearing - Impaired
G - General audience PG - Parental guidance suggested R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)
600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily ♿
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ 11:00, 12:30, 2:00, 5:30, 7:30
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:00, 4:00, 8:45, 11:00
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) Ð 11:10, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:15
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ Ð 10:10, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
■**Annie** (PG) Ð 10:50, 1:40, 4:40, 7:35, 10:20
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) Ð 3:15, 10:35
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:45
■**Horrible Bosses 2** (R) Ð 11:45, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) ★ Ð 12:35, 3:50, 7:10, 10:40
■**Top Five** (R) ★ Ð 10:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) Ð 11:30, 7:00

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)
2828 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949
■**Wild** (R) (Closed caption) 1:30
■**Foxcatcher** (R) (Closed caption) 1:10, 4:10, 7:15, 10:15
■**Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)** (R) (Closed caption) 1:30, 4:25, 7:25, 10:10
■**Whiplash** (R) (Closed caption) 4:05, 9:30
■**The Theory of Everything** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05
■**The Imitation Game** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:15, 1:45, 4:15, 4:45, 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:15
■**Wild** (R) (Closed caption) 1:00, 6:45
■**Wild** (R) (Closed caption) 4:00, 7:10, 9:45

CITY NORTH 14 (REGAL)
2600 N. Western Ave.
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies -- An IMAX 3D Experience** (PG-13) ★ 11:30, 3:15, 7:00, 10:30
■**Annie** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 10:30, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20, 11:50
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ 10:40, 11:40, 1:10, 2:10, 4:10, 5:10, 7:10, 8:10, 10:10, 11:10
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 12:00, 3:45, 7:30, 11:00
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 10:30, 2:45, 6:30, 10:00, 12:00
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 4:15, 11:30
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 12:30, 8:00
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:45, 3:30, 7:15, 10:45
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 12:15, 4:00, 7:45, 11:15
■**Top Five** (R) (Closed caption) 1:05, 3:50, 6:25, 9:05
■**Horrible Bosses 2** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 11:55
■**Penguins of Madagascar** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 10:35, 1:45, 4:25, 6:55, 9:20
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:05, 2:05, 5:05, 8:05, 11:05
■**Big Hero 6** (PG) (Closed caption) 10:45, 1:55, 4:55, 7:55, 10:55
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:15, 3:05, 7:05, 10:50

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)
4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893
■**Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)** (R) 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ 4:40, 7:10, 9:30

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 State Street
(312) 846-2800
■**The Tale of the Princess Kaguya** (PG) 6:00
■**The Two Faces of January** (PG-13) 6:00, 8:00
■**Awake: The Life of Yogananda** (PG) 8:30

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)
S. Cicero at 76th., Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ 11:15, 1:45, 5:00, 7:30, 10:45
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:15, 12:45, 4:15, 6:45, 10:15
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) Ð 11:00, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20
■**Penguins of Madagascar** (PG) Ð 11:20, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45
■**Big Hero 6** (PG) Ð 10:10, 1:30, 4:00, 7:30, 10:00
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ Ð 10:30, 11:30, 1:15, 2:20, 4:00, 5:00, 6:45, 7:45, 9:30, 10:30
■**Annie** (PG) ★ Ð 10:15, 11:15, 12:15, 1:15, 3:15, 4:15, 5:00, 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15, 10:15
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) Ð 3:45
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:00, 12:30, 3:50, 7:15, 9:45
■**Dumb and Dumber To** (PG-13) Ð 2:00, 11:00
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:45, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45
■**Top Five** (R) ★ Ð 10:00, 11:15, 1:20, 2:10, 5:15, 7:10, 8:15, 10:30, 11:15

LOGAN THEATRE
2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628
■**Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)** (R) 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) 2:15, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) 2:20, 7:45
■**National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation** (PG-13) 11:00
■**Whiplash** (R) 5:30
■**Wild** (R) 2:00, 8:30, 10:45
■**Wild** (R) 4:10, 6:15

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)
322 E. Illinois Street, Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ 10:00, 1:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:45, 8:30
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ Ð 11:45, 12:30, 4:00, 7:30, 10:15, 11:00, 11:30
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) Ð 10:20, 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 10:00
■**Penguins of Madagascar** (PG) Ð 10:00, 1:10, 3:30
■**Big Hero 6** (PG) Ð 10:10, 12:45, 3:40, 6:20, 9:10
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ Ð 10:30, 12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 3:30, 5:15, 6:15, 8:00, 9:00, 10:45
■**Annie** (PG) ★ Ð 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) Ð 5:50
■AMC Independent **Foxcatcher** (R) Ð 12:10, 3:10, 6:30, 9:40
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) Ð 3:00, 9:50
■**Gone Girl** (R) Ð 11:30, 6:30
■AMC Independent **PK** (NR) ★ Ð 11:45, 3:15, 6:45, 10:15
■AMC Independent **The Theory of Everything** (PG-13) Ð 12:15, 3:15, 6:15, 9:15
■AMC Independent **Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)** (R) Ð 10:45, 1:45, 4:40, 7:45, 9:30
■AMC Independent **The Imitation Game** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:05, 11:00, 12:50, 1:50, 3:45, 4:45, 6:35, 7:45, 9:30, 10:45
■AMC Independent **Wild** (R) Ð 10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:20
■AMC Independent **Nightcrawler** (R) Ð 10:30, 4:30, 10:30
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) Ð 12:25, 3:50, 7:15, 10:35
■**Top Five** (R) ★ Ð 2:00, 4:35, 7:15, 9:50, 10:50
■**Back in Time** (NR) ★ Ð 1:30, 7:30

MUSIC BOX
3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604
■**The Babadook** (NR) 3:10, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
■**It's a Wonderful Life** (PG) 3:20, 9:40
■**White Christmas** (NR) 6:30

SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING (AMC)
7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #2309
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ 11:30, 3:00, 6:30
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:30, 2:00, 5:30, 9:00, 10:00
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) Ð 10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
■**Penguins of Madagascar** (PG) Ð 11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30
■**Big Hero 6** (PG) Ð 10:10, 12:50, 3:30, 6:20, 10:20
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies -- An IMAX 3D Experience** (PG-13) ★ 12:30, 4:00, 7:30, 11:00
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ Ð 11:00, 12:00, 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15, 10:00, 11:00
■**Annie** (PG) ★ Ð 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00, 9:00, 10:00
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) Ð 11:10, 2:50, 6:40, 10:20
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) ★ Ð 11:40, 3:10, 6:30, 9:50
■**Horrible Bosses 2** (R) Ð 10:00, 4:50, 7:30
■AMC Independent **The Theory of Everything** (PG-13) Ð 10:50, 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30
■AMC Independent **Wild** (R) ★ Ð 10:40, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) ★ Ð 12:40, 4:10, 7:30, 10:50
■**Top Five** (R) Ð 11:00, 12:00, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40, 10:40

WEBSTER PLACE 11 (REGAL)
1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
■**Annie** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 10:10, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ 10:20, 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 10:20
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 10:30, 12:30, 4:00, 7:30, 11:00
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 10:00, 11:30, 1:00, 3:00, 4:30, 6:30, 8:00, 10:00, 11:30
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 12:00
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 3:50, 10:40
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 12:20, 7:20
■**Horrible Bosses 2** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:50
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:10
■**Big Hero 6** (PG) (Closed caption) 10:15, 1:50, 4:25, 6:55, 9:30
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 10:50, 2:40, 6:20, 10:05
■**Gone Girl** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 12:45, 3:55, 7:05, 10:15

SHOWPLACE GALEWOOD 14 (AMC)
E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1646
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ 12:20, 3:40, 7:00, 10:20
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:00, 1:20, 4:40, 6:00, 8:00
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:45, 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:25
■**Penguins of Madagascar** (PG) Ð 1:30, 6:30
■**Penguins of Madagascar 3D** (PG) 11:00, 4:00, 9:00
■**Big Hero 6** (PG) Ð 11:30, 2:10, 7:30, 10:10
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ Ð 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ Ð 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
■**Annie** (PG) ★ Ð 10:15, 12:15, 1:15, 4:15, 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15, 10:15
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) Ð 11:00
■**Dumb and Dumber To** (PG-13) Ð 12:05, 2:45, 5:30
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) ★ Ð 12:00, 3:20, 6:40, 9:00, 10:00
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) ★ Ð 2:20, 5:40
■**Top Five** (R) ★ Ð 10:00, 11:00, 12:30, 1:30, 3:00, 4:50, 7:40, 9:20, 10:20
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) ★ Ð 4:00

SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION
Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago
(312) 564-2104
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ ✓ (Closed caption) 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:30, 3:00, 6:30, 10:00
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ ✓ (Closed caption) 12:30, 4:00, 7:30, 11:00
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ ✓ (Closed caption) 10:00, 1:30, 5:00, 8:30
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:20, 9:45
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 10:40, 1:45, 4:40, 7:50, 10:40
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:00, 2:30, 6:00, 9:30
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 9:00
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 1:00, 4:30, 8:00
■**Big Hero 6** (PG) (Closed caption) 10:10, 12:15, 3:15, 6:10
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 10:50
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 10:15, 11:40, 1:10, 1:40, 2:15, 3:50, 4:20, 5:10, 6:40, 7:20, 8:10, 9:20, 10:10, 10:50
■**Annie** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 10:20
■**Annie** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 12:40, 1:20, 3:40, 4:10, 6:50, 9:40
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 2:45, 6:20
■**Wild** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 10:30, 1:50, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45
■**Top Five** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 11:10, 2:00, 4:50, 7:10, 7:40, 9:50, 10:20

VIP Premium 21+
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ ✓ (Closed caption) ***VIP Premium 21+*** 12:30, 4:00, 7:30, 11:00
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) ***VIP Premium 21+*** 11:00, 2:30, 6:00, 9:30

SHOWPLACE CICERO 14 (AMC)
4779 W. Cermak., Cicero
(800) 326-3264 #1644
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) ★ Ð 12:00
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) 3:30, 7:00, 10:30
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ Ð 10:00, 1:15, 8:15
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) ★ Ð 4:45
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) Ð 10:05, 12:55, 3:50, 6:45, 9:40
■**Penguins of Madagascar** (PG) Ð 1:40, 4:10, 6:00
■**Big Hero 6** (PG) Ð 10:45, 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:50
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) ★ Ð 10:00, 11:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) Ð 1:00, 5:00
■**Annie** (PG) Ð 10:30, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 11:00
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) ★ Ð 11:15, 2:45, 6:15, 9:15
■**Dumb and Dumber To** (PG-13) Ð 10:00, 12:40, 3:15, 8:25, 11:00
■**Panic 5 Bravo** (R) Ð 1:20
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) Ð 12:45
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) Ð 4:15, 7:45, 10:30
■**Top Five** (R) ★ Ð 10:20, 12:50, 3:20, 7:15, 8:35, 10:00, 11:00
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) Ð 3:40

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)
1022 Lake Street, Oak Park
(630) 444-FILM #560
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00
■**Annie** (PG) (Closed caption) 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:30, 3:35, 6:40, 9:45
■**The Theory of Everything** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00

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■**Foxcatcher** (R) Ð (Closed caption) 12:30, 3:50, 7:15, 10:15
■**Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)** (R) Ð (Closed caption) 10:55, 1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:10
■**Interstellar** (PG-13) Ð (Closed caption) 11:20, 2:55, 6:30, 10:05
■**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13) Ð (Closed caption) 11:05, 2:00, 4:55, 7:50, 10:40
■**Penguins of Madagascar** (PG) Ð (Closed caption) 12:10, 5:15, 10:00
■**Penguins of Madagascar 3D** (PG) (Closed caption) 2:50, 7:40
■**The Theory of Everything** (PG-13) Ð (Closed caption) 11:00, 1:50, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25
■**The Imitation Game** (PG-13) Ð (Closed caption) 11:30, 12:40, 2:10, 3:30, 4:50, 6:10, 7:30, 8:50, 10:20
■**Wild** (R) Ð (Closed caption) 11:10, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings** (PG-13) Ð (Closed caption) 12:25, 7:05, 10:25
■**Exodus: Gods and Kings 3D** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 10:45, 2:05, 3:45, 5:25, 8:45
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies** (PG-13) Ð (Closed caption) 10:40, 1:55, 5:10, 8:30
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) 12:15, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15
■**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies 3D** (PG-13) 11:45, 3:00, 6:15, 9:30
■**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb** (PG) Ð (Closed caption) 11:40, 12:50, 2:15, 3:20, 4:40, 5:50, 7:10, 8:20, 9:40, 10:45
■**Annie** (PG) Ð (Closed caption) 10:50, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
■**Top Five** (R) Ð (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:45, 5:30, 8:00, 10:35

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John Travolta (left) and Nikki Blonsky in 'Hairspray'

A reluctant singalong

5 musicals I actually enjoy and why they make the cut

FAST PAISED
Matt Pais
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With "Annie" (opening Friday) and "Into the Woods" (opening Dec. 25) on the way, I want to put it on the record that while I am not a fan of musicals, there are, in fact, some I enjoy. (Note: I'm not including classics like "Singin' in the Rain," which I can't imagine anyone not liking. And, honestly, 2002's "Chicago" has fallen out of my memory.)

1. 'Newsies' (1992)

If anyone tells you that a friend and I were solely responsible for introducing this movie to our elementary school's music curriculum, thanks to our talent show performance of "Seize the Day," they are lying. Or maybe I am.

2. 'Once' (2006)

This romantic drama isn't weighed down by huge choreographed dances and over-the-top numbers like most musicals. Instead, it's full of the sadness and hope that star Glen Hansard made his name on in The Frames, and which Hansard and co-star Marketa Irglova continued as the Swell Season.

3. 'Hairspray' (2007)

Expectations probably weren't especially high for the movie based on the musical based on the movie by John Waters. Then director Adam Shankman (mostly responsible for junk like "Bringing Down the House" and "Rock of Ages") made the new "Hairspray" surprisingly effective and fun, featuring well-cast turns from Nikki Blonsky, Zac Efron and Christopher Walken. Can't say John Travolta was the best choice, but you win some and so forth.

4. 'High School Musical 3' (2008)

I know, I know. But really: The only "HSM" movie to be released in theaters is actually far less annoying and more entertaining than its predecessors. Another good Efron performance and strong dance sequences makes this a movie you want to hate but can't—or at least shouldn't.

5. 'The Last 5 Years' (2015)

This musical love story doesn't open until next year (exact release date TBD), but I saw and loved it during the Chicago International Film Festival. So few movies about relationships have something to say about the individuals as well as the couple. This one does.

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The Babadook
NR

Watch out for writer-director Jennifer Kent's next movie. I'm betting big that it's going to be both awesome and insanely freaky.

The Australian filmmaker almost does it with her first feature, "The Babadook," which at its peak hits some of the scariest heights in years. This is essential viewing if you like being on edge. Kinda like the "un, dos, tres, toca la pared" refrain of 2007's Spanish thriller "The Orphanage"—still the most terrifying movie of the century—"The Babadook" offers a hauntingly musical lilt of "ba-ba-ba-dook-dook-dook." Just thinking about it makes my skin crawl.

Six-year-old Samuel (Noah Wiseman, perfectly shrill) likes building weapons and talking about monsters, which, as it shouldn't, doesn't sit so well at school. Soon his mom, Amelia (Essie Davis), decides the boy shouldn't go back, but it's also not long before they can't be around Amelia's sister and her daughter either. Is Samuel a monster, or is life slipping dangerously into alienated, unsatisfied madness? Cooped up and tormented by the repeated appearance of a chilling children's book called "Mister Babadook," both mother and son are overcome by nightmares—something the former has experienced regularly since her husband was killed while driving her to the hospital to give birth.

Kent allows "The Babadook" to crest too early, the movie's penetrating dread receding as a refreshingly special-effects-free approach adjusts into something a little more conventional. The accumulation of insects always makes me need to brush off imaginary ones, but their use here, along with a few other stock elements, is a downshift in originality.

These are relatively minor complaints for the rare horror movie that's actually disturbing. The voice and depiction of the Babadook are, well, you'll see ... if you dare. This movie is the glass in the soup, the big bad wolf under the bed. For this sleepless, helpless single parent, the walls are closing in, and the shrieks are getting louder. See if you can keep your hands away from your eyes and ears.

Essie Davis (left) and Noah Wiseman in 'The Babadook'
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Channing Tatum still wrestling with ambitions

Los Angeles Times

Making "Foxcatcher" wasn't fun for Channing Tatum. And he's the kind of guy who likes to have fun.

He was named People's "Sexiest Man Alive" in 2012—not an honor for any actor who takes himself too seriously. This year he did a TV show with survival expert Bear Grylls in which the two snacked on a scorpion and spent a night spooning on a sheer rock cliff. He co-owns a bar in New Orleans called Saints & Sinners, for God's sake.

So he had trouble reeling in his daffy energy on the set of "Foxcatcher." Director Bennett Miller even had to reprimand him a few times.

"Bennett is a stay-in-it guy—he really wants you to live it. There's no laughing on set," the 34-year-old said. "If you start laughing or cutting up, he'll correct you and be like, 'Get your head back in it, Chan.' "

If that seems harsh, consider the film's real-life story. Tatum plays Mark Schultz, a star wrestler who, despite an Olympic gold medal, lives in the shadow of his beloved brother Dave (Mark Ruffalo), a legend in the wrestling world. Just when he's beginning to sink into an abyss of self-loathing, Mark receives a letter from an eccentric millionaire named John du Pont (Steve Carell) inviting him to train for the World Championships and 1988 Olympics at his expansive Pennsylvania estate.

Channing Tatum in 'Foxcatcher'

"I've gotten to know Channing pretty well, and I've gotta say, I don't know," Miller said, reflecting on Tatum's ambition for critical acclaim. "We haven't talked about it yet. I think he's proud of the film. I feel that he gets uncomfortable when the focus is concentrated too sharply on him."

That may be so. During our discussion, actor seemed hyper-aware of how he described himself. He chose his words cautiously and apologized any time he sensed one of his answers was not especially revelatory. ("I know that's probably not the answer you're looking for," he lamented at one point. And: "This is going to sound so corny and terrible and I'm going to hate reading this later. If I read this.")

Perhaps it was that talking about his preparations for "Foxcatcher" or laying bare his career hopes felt pretentious—at odds with the affable, let's-go-have-a-drink persona he's become recognized for. And perhaps he wasn't keen to relive the experience of making the movie simply because it was so unbearable for him.

"It was a suffocating movie and a suffocating experience," he said. "I never want to wrestle again."

Tatum spent a month training with Ruffalo before production began but never shared in the pleasure Schultz got from wrestling. It made him feel like he was dying—not being able to breathe, not being able to tap out. "You have to be so comfortable being uncomfortable," he said.

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Noel Murray | LOS ANGELES TIMES

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The French comedian's films are masterpieces that stand up to being watched over and over, and this set comes with hours of bonus shorts and documentaries that help explain why his work matters.

2. TWIN PEAKS: THE ENTIRE MYSTERY

David Lynch's bizarre, groundbreaking 1990-91 ABC TV series has been released on home video before but never on Blu-ray, and never in an edition this complete, which includes the 1992 prequel/wrap-up movie "Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me."

3. HERZOG: THE COLLECTION

These 16 films present images, character and ideas unlike any other in cinema.

4. WKRP IN CINCINNATI: THE COMPLETE SERIES

Previously one of the great "if only's" of the TV-on-DVD era, the cult-favorite sitcom "WKRP in Cincinnati" has been held up for years because of the expense of clearing the show's many, many rock songs.

5. LOS ANGELES PLAYS ITSELF

A must for cinema scholars, "Los Angeles Plays Itself" uses clips from old movies to analyze how Hollywood's home city has been documented, exploited and misinterpreted by filmmakers for decades.

6. THE ROOSEVELTS: AN INTIMATE HISTORY

This seven-part look at the lives of Theodore, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt doubles as a study of the evolution of class, politics and gender roles in America.

7. THE MACK SENNETT COLLECTION VOL. ONE

The real value here is in the commentary tracks by scholars and archivists who talk about how one of Hollywood's all-time greats gathered and nurtured a phenomenal collection of comic talent.

8. THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI

The most popular example of German expressionism and silent horror cinema has never looked as good as it does in the new 4K restoration on this Kino edition.

9. THE ROLLING STONES: FROM THE VAULT

The world doesn't lack for official Rolling Stones concert films, but the new "From The Vault" series digs up some rawer Stones recordings, shot for broadcast or for archival purposes.

10. THE NUTTY PROFESSOR: 50TH ANNIVERSARY ULTIMATE COLLECTOR'S EDITION

Jerry Lewis' particular brand of comic genius—broad, loopy and unafraid to come across as obnoxious—is an acquired taste, which this loaded box set makes a little easier to acquire.

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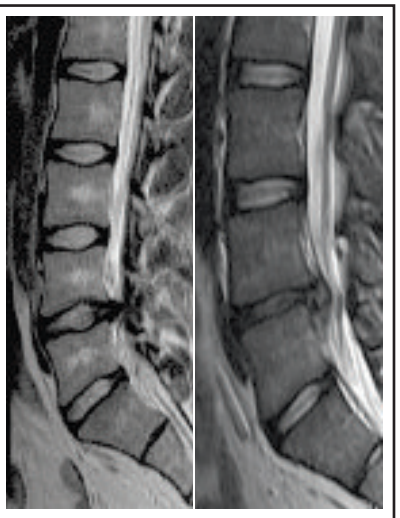

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2015 CHEVY **TRAVERSE LS FWD** STK#000F1069 · MSRP $31,695

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$34,476

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2002 Pontiac Grand Am GT #00E1718D	$999
1997 Buick LeSabre Limited #0CP2727A	$1,970
2002 Chevrolet TrailBlazer #00E2584A	$1,999
2003 Ford Taurus SES #00F1151A	$2,961
2000 Suzuki Grand Vitara #00F1271A	$2,998
2001 Chevrolet Malibu #0XE1896A	$3,107
1998 Ford Mustang V6 #00D1025B	$3,440
2001 Dodge Caravan Sport #00F1239A	$3,498
2002 Pontiac Grand Prix SE #0CP2681A	$3,993
2003 Dodge Durango Sport #00F1152A	$3,998
2002 Jeep Liberty Limited #0XE2433A	$4,894
2000 Mitsubishi Montero Sport #0CP2716A	$4,998
2000 Volkswagen Beetle GLS 1.8T #00CP2764	$4,999
2004 Mercury Grand Marquis GS #00E2528B	$5,397
2003 Ford Explorer XLS #0CP2708A	$5,599
2003 Chevrolet TrailBlazer LT #00CP2722	$5,638
2008 Chevrolet Impala LT #00F1127A	$6,171
2006 Chevrolet Impala LS #00F1194A	$6,697
2006 Honda Civic EX #00F1140A	$6,907
2008 Volkswagen Passat Komfort #00E2013A	$6,993
2005 Cadillac DeVille #00CP2800	$7,227
2007 Hyundai Sonata #0XE2443A	$7,299
2005 Ford Explorer XLT #0CP2686A	$7,497
2005 Chevrolet Impala LS #00F1303A	$7,497
2007 Pontiac G6 #00CP2802	$7,697
2007 Honda Accord SE 3.0 #00E2402A	$7,905
2006 Chrysler PT Cruiser GT #00CP2801	$7,997
2006 Ford E-150 #00CP2818	$7,998
2008 Ford Fusion SE #00E2475A	$8,868
2008 Chevrolet Impala LT #00F1099N	$9,297
2007 Scion tC #00CP2820	$9,584
2007 Ford Fusion SEL #0CP2843A	$9,596
2007 Jeep Patriot Limited #00CP2826	$9,664
2006 Cadillac STS V6 #0XE2420A	$9,911
2005 Dodge Dakota SLT Quad Cab #00CP2825	$9,952

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Grossinger year-end all in event.

all in means 0% APR for 72 months[1]
all in means over $5,000 in savings[†]
what does all in mean to you?

12 DAYS LEFT TO SAVE IN 2014

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New 2014 Chevy Cruze all in.
$12,998* MSRP $19,180[2]
V140074
all in savings $6,182[†]

New 2014 Chevy Equinox all in.
$20,222* MSRP $25,998[2]
V150072
all in savings $5,776[†]

New 2014 Chevy Spark all in.
$9,999* MSRP $12,995[2]
V140234
all in savings $2,996[†]

New 2015 Chevy Malibu all in.
$17,995* MSRP $23,295[2]
V150066
all in savings $5,295[†]

New 2014 Chevy Equinox LT all in.
$20,334* MSRP $27,798[2]
V140366
all in savings $7,464[†]

New 2015 Chevy Impala all in.
$22,311* MSRP $27,735[2]
V150033
all in savings $5,424[†]

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2014 Cadillac CTS
$279^
39 MO LEASE

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D140147

2014 Cadillac ATS 2.5L I4
$229^
39 MO LEASE

Courtesy Car. ^You must qualify. $3500 down plus first mo. payment, title and $166.27 doc fee. $0 sec. dep. Exp. 3 days from pub.

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1) You must qualify. $13.88 per $1000 financed. $20k max financed, bank buy down rate. 2) MSRP may not be actual selling price within trade area. 3) You must qualify. May affect final payment date. *Plus tax, title, lic & $166.27 doc fee. †Off MSRP on select new models. All vehicles subject to prior sales.Offers to qualified buyers. Dealer will not honor pricing errors in ad. Offers end 3 days after pub.

GETTY IMAGES

Quick and dirty sex advice: Winter edition

Anna Pulley
» redeye@tribune.com
» @annapulley

It's almost officially winter, and that means it's time for another round of quick and dirty advice—because the days are short, and so are our attention spans.

Dear Anna,
People never write back to me on dating websites. Do you have any tips on making my messages more response-worthy?
Have you tried being incredibly attractive? If not, then you definitely should write as if you have some kind of hot foreign accent. For instance: Escyusah may, but ju loook lak ju could juse som expenSEEV mousTARD from mah hometown of DIJ-AWN (that ees een Fransay, btdubbs).

Actually, I think it matters least what you write. The person you're trying to mack on is going to make a bunch of blanket judgments about you (that probably are wrong) based on how you present yourself. If he/she's not into your online representation, it doesn't matter if you copy/paste the boner-iest Pablo Neruda lines ever written, they still won't write you back. That said, mastering basic English is a good "trick" to try when messaging someone. So is writing slightly more than "hey :)" or its equivalents: The Mr. Ed: Haaay; The Gosling: Hey gurl; The 50 Cent: Hey shawty; and The Fonz: Eyyyyy! And do ask a question. People are more likely to respond if their curiosity is piqued, which is why I always message people with "Knock-knock!"

Dear Anna?
How do I get men to notice me at a bar?
Show up? Or, oh, wait, I know this one: perfect the art of casually leaning against things and sighing. Be sure not to cross your legs though! You want to appear open, but not TOO open (you slut, ha ha, seriously though shut it down).

Or, OR! Try just talking to him. "Oof, it's freezing out tonight, isn't it?" "What are you drinking?" "Are they really playing John Denver? If it's not the Chipmunks Christmas album, I want none of it!" "Let me ask your advice on something: My [possibly fictional] guy friend just got dumped and has some [possibly fictional] dilemma. What do you think I should tell him?" "What's your favorite sonnet?" (It worked in "Dead Poets Society"!)

Dear Anna,
How can I tell a girl I like her without, you know, coming right out and saying it?
A short list, arranged from least to most effective:

5. Sky writing
4. Dedicate a song to her on the radio
3. Lean casually against things when she's around
2. Create an elaborate scavenger hunt for her. The last clue should be: "Hey, your friend Steve is pretty great. Is he single? I hear he's single."
1. Mime

WANT TO ASK ANNA AN ANONYMOUS QUESTION ABOUT LOVE, SEX OR DATING? EMAIL YOUR QUANDARY TO REDEYEDATING@GMAIL.COM. NEED TO GIVE YOUR DATING LIFE A BOOST? SIGN UP FOR REDEYE DATING.

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	LEASE for...	LEASE for...	LEASE for...	LEASE for...
	$89/mo*	$159/mo^	$169/mo^	$219/mo^

*36 month lease to qualified lessees, $2500 due at signing, $0 1st-mo payment, 12k miles/yr, plus tax, title, lic, doc. fee, $0 security deposit. ^36 month lease, $2499 due at signing plus 1st-month payment, 12k miles per year. Plus tax, title, license, doc. fee. Must qualify. Security deposit waived.

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Stk. #Y8409, MSRP $22,115
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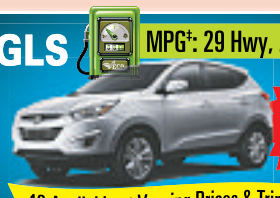
$15,898~
You Save $6217 Off MSRP!^
BUY FOR... $166/mo.**
MPG‡: 37 Hwy, 25 City
0% APR x72°
129 Available at Varying Prices & Trims! 1 left at this price!°^

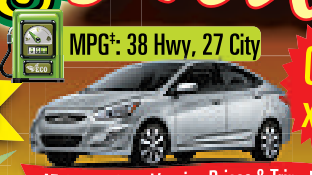
New '15 Elantra SE
Stk. #Y8846, MSRP $19,410
McGrath Price:
$14,410~
You Save $5000 Off MSRP!^
BUY FOR... $143/mo.**
MPG‡: 38 Hwy, 28 City
0% APR x72°
104 Available at Varying Prices & Trims! 1 left at this price!°^

New '15 Tucson GLS
Stk. #Y8972, MSRP $22,650
McGrath Price:
$19,650~
You Save $3000 Off MSRP!^
BUY FOR... $223/mo.**
MPG‡: 29 Hwy, 23 City
0% APR x72°
10 Available at Varying Prices & Trims! 2 left at this price!°^



New '15 Santa Fe Sport
Stk. #Y8968, MSRP $27,580
McGrath Price:
$23,380~
You Save $4200 Off MSRP!^
BUY FOR... $279/mo.**
MPG‡: 27 Hwy, 20 City
0% APR x72°
32 Available at Varying Prices & Trims! 1 left at this price!°^

New '14 Accent GLS
Stk. #Y8515, MSRP $16,710
McGrath Price:
$12,444~
You Save $4266 Off MSRP!^
BUY FOR... $113/mo.**
MPG‡: 33 Hwy, 24 City
0% APR x72°
32 Available at Varying Prices & Trims! 1 left at this price!°^



New '14 Elantra GT H.B.
Stk. #Y8720, MSRP $20,805
McGrath Price:
$14,878~
You Save $5927 Off MSRP!^
BUY FOR... $150/mo.**
MPG‡: 38 Hwy, 27 City
0% APR x72°
45 Available at Varying Prices & Trims! 4 left at this price!°^

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3					6	2	5	
				5		3		
	1			3	4		7	9
			3		1		6	
9								8
	5		4		8			
2	3		6	1			4	
		5		7				
	6	9	5					3

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

5	3	2	9	6	4	8	1	7
7	4	6	1	8	5	3	9	2
8	1	9	7	3	2	5	4	6
2	7	4	8	5	9	1	6	3
6	5	1	3	4	7	9	2	8
9	8	3	2	1	6	4	7	5
1	2	7	5	9	8	6	3	4
4	9	5	6	2	3	7	8	1
3	6	8	4	7	1	2	5	9

THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS

O	P	T	E	D		C	H	A	D		C	U	S	P
N	O	O	S	E		H	I	D	E		O	N	T	O
E	L	A	T	E		I	T	S	A		U	F	O	S
S	O	D	A	P	O	P	S		C	A	N	I	N	E
			T	E	A	S		M	O	B	S	T	E	R
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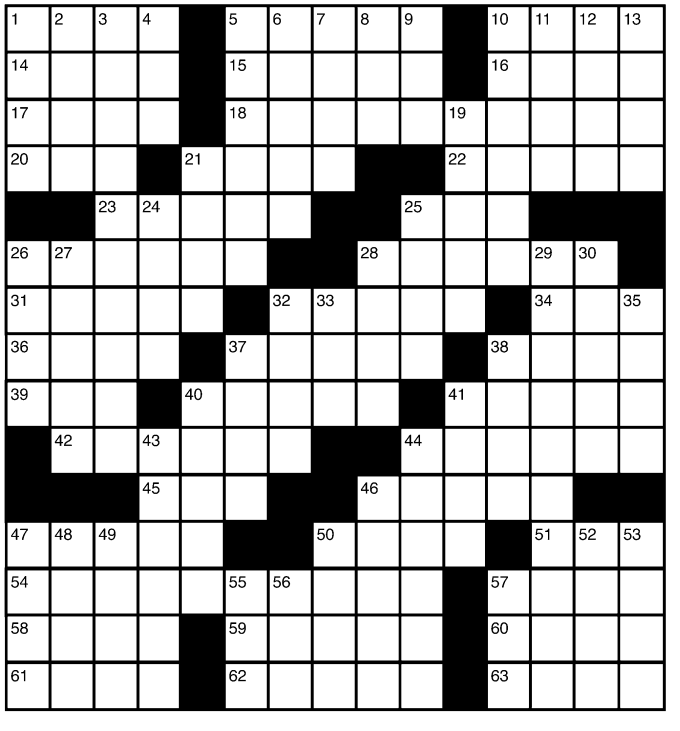
W	O	E		T	I	E	R	S		S	L	I	M	S
E	Y	E	D		S	A	G	E	S		S	O	A	K
S	A	F	E	S		G	A	S	E	S		W	I	I
			S	I	R	E	N		R	I	V	A	L	S
S	P	O	I	L	E	R		P	U	M	A			
M	O	N	R	O	E		H	U	M	I	L	I	T	Y
A	L	S	O		C	H	I	C		L	I	T	H	E
L	I	E	U		H	O	N	K		A	S	I	A	N
L	O	T	S		O	T	T	S		R	E	S	T	S

TODAY IN THE YEAR ...

1843: "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, was first published in England.
1985: In Minneapolis, Mary Lund became the first woman to receive a Jarvik VII artificial heart. (Lund received a human heart transplant 45 days later; she died in October 1986.)
1998: President Bill Clinton was impeached by the Republican-controlled House for perjury and obstruction of justice. (He was later acquitted by the Senate.)

ACROSS
1 _ out; eradicate
5 Sprinkles at the table
10 _ up; support
14 TV's "American _"
15 Cape
16 Impolite
17 Clutter
18 Scolds
20 Faux _; social blunder
21 Disturbs; jolts
22 Misfortune
23 Burst
25 _-tac-toe
26 Robards and Bateman
28 Became friends again
31 Follow as a result of
32 Beds for babies
34 Trawler's need
36 In a _; miffed
37 Simon & Reiser
38 Gush forth
39 Cheap metal
40 Reigned
41 Lively dance
42 Haughtiness
44 Under _; being coerced
45 Word of disgust
46 Terra _; patio pot material
47 Laziness
50 Apple products
51 Noticed
54 Entrepreneur
57 Daddy
58 Large kitchen appliance
59 "Same for me!"
60 Dollar bills
61 Orangey drink
62 Talk out of
63 "_ Wonderful Life"

DOWN
1 Nebbish
2 New thought
3 Owning
4 Rail systems in some cities
5 Leftover bits
6 Warn
7 Cuts off
8 Paving goo
9 Zoom down snowy slopes
10 Walk about with liveliness
11 Ladder step
12 Probability
13 Pain in the neck
19 Housekeepers
21 Sixth month
24 Overwhelming victory
25 Keep _ on; watch closely
26 Joke around
27 "_ Get Your Gun"
28 Not at all spicy
29 Disagreeable
30 Quick looks
32 Peaceful
33 Regret
35 It was, to a poet
37 Shove
38 Categorize
40 Correct
41 _ up with; tolerates
43 Field trip
44 Physician
46 Social division in India
47 Edinburgh man
48 Etna's output
49 Unlock
50 Catcher's glove
52 Primates
53 "Fuzzy Wuzzy _ bear..."
55 Find a sum
56 Commit perjury
57 Luau dish



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47x21x20, Coffee Bean was $149 NOW $119.95
47x18x24, Coffee Bean was $189 NOW $149.95
60x16x22, Black was $239 NOW $199.95

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All Wood Full Size Futon Frame
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40 MPG~
FULL FACTORY EQUIPPED!, #132911
94 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES
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NEW 2014 FORD ESCAPE
34 MPG~
FULL FACTORY EQUIPPED!, #14113
109 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES
BUY FOR $17,988* OR $309^ PER MO. WITH $500 DOWN

NEW 2014 FORD FUSION
34 MPG~
1.6L ECOBOOST, PW, PL, FULL FACTORY EQUIPPED!, #140537
67 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES
BUY FOR $18,981* OR $329^ PER MO. WITH $500 DOWN

NEW 2014 FORD EDGE
30 MPG~
46 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES
V6, ALLOYS, PW, PL, TILT, CRUISE, CD, AUTO, #131538
BUY FOR $21,988* OR $389^ PER MO. WITH $500 DOWN

NEW 2014 FORD F-150
19 MPG~
92 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES
AUTO, AC, PWR EQUIPMENT GROUP, SYNC, #142737
BUY FOR $21,988* OR $389^ PER MO. WITH $500 DOWN

NEW 2014 FORD TAURUS SEL
29 MPG~
22 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES
SYNC, BACK-UP CAMERA, FULL FACTORY, EQUIPPED!, #142318
BUY FOR $22,888* OR $439^ PER MO. WITH $500 DOWN

NEW 2015 FORD EXPLORER
28 MPG~
33 AVAILABLE AT VARYING PRICES
V6, PW, PL, TILT, CRUISE, CD, LOADED, #140154
BUY FOR $25,691* OR $469^ PER MO. WITH $500 DOWN

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$5 Alpha King Drafts
$5 Whiskey Drinks
$6 PBR tall boy & Rebel Yell shot
Karaoke at 10!

Innjoy
2051 W. Division St. Chicago IL
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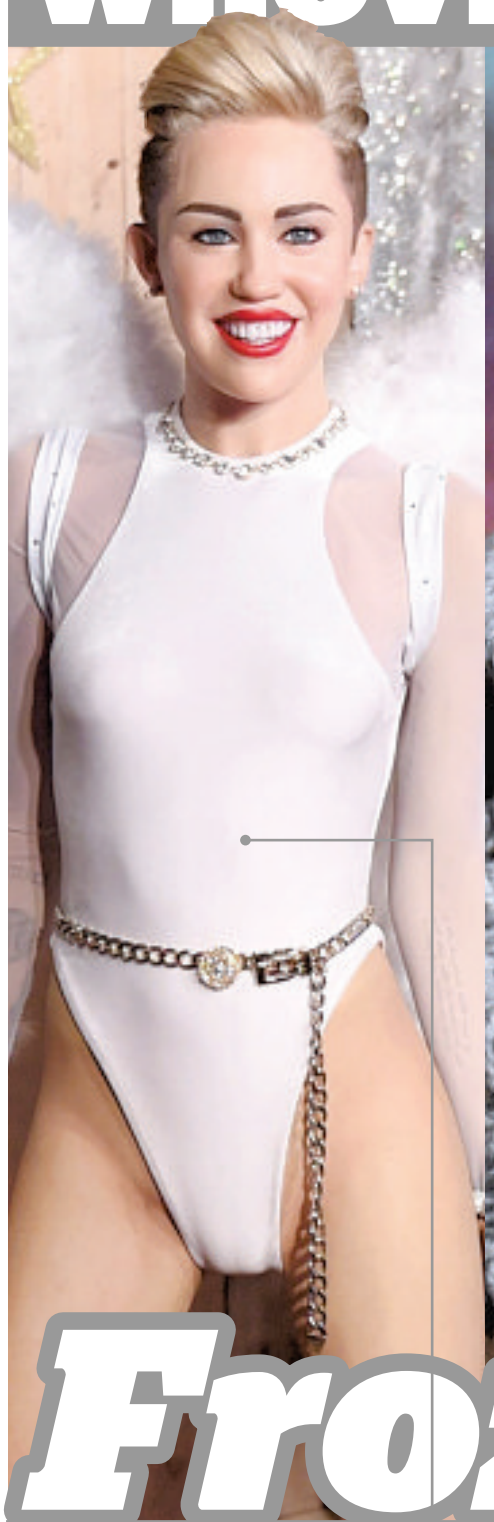

Frozen

There's something ... missing ... from these new wax figures

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

Pretty much at the top of the list of Top 5 Places You Won't Find Us This Weekend is a wax museum. That's why we're always delightfully creeped out when Madame Tussauds unleashes a fresh round of celebrity lookalikes into the universe. Here's our thoughts on a few of the hallowed institution's creations.

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Miley Cyrus
Madame Tussauds Berlin

Reality check: Miley's eyebrows are pretty killer, but there's something a little ... wolverine-like ... happening with her teeth. Did they get all of her tattoos right? DETAILS, PEOPLE.

Jennifer Lawrence as Katniss Everdeen
Madame Tussauds London

Perk up, Jen! There's no energy in those shoulders! Katniss is supposed to be strong and proud. Kudos on the wolf-gnawed scarf, though.

Harry Styles of One Direction
Madame Tussauds London

We just want to knock on his head like a watermelon to see if it's ripe. Do you think his stare was this vacant when he was listening to Taylor Swift?

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D'oh-busted

In further proof that "Mythbusters" is basically the geeky machinations of a couple of tech nerds, the show's Season 13 premiere in January will cover myths inspired by "The Simpsons," **ew.com** reports. "We set out to test Bart throwing a cherry bomb into the toilet that makes all toilets in the school act like geysers," co-host Adam Savage said, referring to the 1990 episode "The Crepes of Wrath," among other episodes that will be debunked. The show also will test myths from the "Indiana Jones" franchise and "Breaking Bad."

Ansel Elgort
REUTERS

THE QUOTE

"Just in case it isn't clear... I like girls. A lot. Also let me say if I was gay I wouldn't hide it. Being gay or straight isn't bad or good it just IS. U are who you are. Be true to yourself."
—"Divergent" star **Ansel Elgort**, on Twitter

"I want to say, but it would be so real, that I can't. I gotta plead the fifth on that one. But honey child, if I was to say that name ... It's two names that I want to say, honey. Two guys, for lack of a better word."
—**Nicki Minaj**, to Andy Cohen on "Watch What Happens Live," on which person is the biggest dick in the music industry. We'll start the betting now.

Nicki Minaj
REUTERS

President Obama
GETTY IMAGES

Prez picks

Now that awards-season announcements are starting to roll in, and critics are choosing their best movies of the year, what does President Obama have to say? " 'Boyhood' was a great movie. That, I think, was my favorite movie this year," Barry O said in an interview with Politico. Michelle Obama thought the book version of "Gone Girl" was "much better than the movie," which probably left Ben Affleck crying in a corner somewhere.

Post-teenage witch

Given her childhood viewing material, it's no surprise Emma Roberts ended up on "American Horror Story: Coven." "I love anything with magic because I grew up watching 'Sabrina, the Teenage Witch' and 'Hocus Pocus,' " she told Vulture. "There was such a witch craze when I was younger." OK, but seriously, was anyone else TERRIFIED by "Hocus Pocus" as a kid? No? Just us?

HB-Nope

Overnight ratings numbers are about to become a thing of the past for HBO. The premium cable network announced that, as of Jan. 1, viewership figures will be revealed about two weeks after an episode premieres in order to factor in DVR and HBO Go numbers, **ew.com** reports. Example from the site: A typical Season 4 "Game of Thrones" episode was watched by 6.6 million viewers live, but 19.1 million total once other platforms were factored in. Basically, the khaleesi wants more data.

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